



AFRL facility scheduled for July completion

by Fran Crumb, Information Directorate

ROME, N.Y. — Work under the auspices of Atkins Benham Constructors of Oklahoma City, Okla., has the \$19.6 million Air Force Research Laboratory's Information Directorate research facility on track for a July completion at the Griffiss Business & Technology Park.

The new 105,000-square-foot facility is the centerpiece of a unique, \$24.8 million partnership between the Air Force and New York State. Congressionally-approved, it is the result of joint funding and support by the Air Force Military Construction Program and the state's Empire State Development Corp.

The Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Philadelphia, Pa., is responsible for administering the construction.

The new construction, combined with on-going renovation in the adjacent Building 3, will result in an improved work environment and state-of-the-art laboratory facilities for the technical mission at the Information Directorate. It is expected to house more than 300 government employees and contractors, and allow for the closure of a three-building complex located at the intersection of Hill and Brooks Roads.

The Rome Research Site's Technical Library will be moved from its current location in Building 106 to the new facility. AFRL security personnel will also transfer to the new facility from their current location in Building 302. Nearly all of the site's scientists and engineers will be housed in the new facility and Building 3.

"We expect to begin the movement of people and equipment into the new facility upon being given a beneficial occupancy notice by the Navy construction managers," said Daniel C. Bollana, chief of the directorate's site operations division. "The goal of this project is to bring the directorate's technical divisions together into a common complex to enhance research collaboration in a state-of-the-art research environment."

Completion of the Information Directorate Research Facility will conclude a two-phase consolidation program. The first phase of the program was completed two years ago, with the demolition of approximately 200,000 square feet of space in the east wing and "headhouse," or front portion, of Building 2 on Brooks Road. The west wing of the building, a sprawling World War II era warehouse, was remodeled and occupied by directorate support offices as a result of the 1993 Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRACC) decision on the former Griffiss Air Force Base. @